

Amateur Radio - Computers - Communications - Internet

Amateur Radio National and Intl. Organizations

by Billy Williams, N4UF

Enthusiasts of many activities and pastimes have formed national organizations to publicize the merits of their activities and to protect their interests. Since Amateur Radio is based on federal law which is enforced by an administrative agency, national representation is of great importance. This representation must be broad-based covering many specialties.

Since 1910, several groups have sought to represent hams nationwide. Today, the only viable national ham radio organization is the American Radio Relay League (ARRL).

In 1914, the Radio Club of Hartford was founded under the guidance of Hiram Percy Maxim. His 1 kilowatt transmitter couldn't reach Springfield, about 40 miles away. Maxim perceived a need for a national organization of registered Amateur Radio relay stations who would commit to keeping regular schedules to relay traffic systematically throughout the nation. This relay branch of the Hartford club became the American Radio Relay League.

By 1916, a thousand hams had registered for relay duty. In 1917, Amateur Radio operators were ordered off the air for two years as World War I raged. With a return to peace, muscle was needed to get ham radio restored. Largely through ARRL, a letter writing campaign succeeded in getting privileges restored in late 1919.

Battles with broadcasters loomed next as spectrum assignments became disputed. ARRL sold \$7500 in bonds to finance our fight. The first ARRL National Convention was in Chicago with 1200 paid in attendance. Until 1925, hams operated around 1500 KHz, just above the broadcast band. Only a very few ventured up to the short waves

to achieve transoceanic contacts. By 1925, use of short waves had grown to the point where international sanction of ham radio was necessary. ARRL promoted founding of the International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) which evolved into an international association of national radio groups such as ARRL. 25 nations participated in founding IARU.

The '30s could be termed a decade of regulation. Spectrum anarchy in the '20s led to formation of the Federal Radio Commission in 1927 to be replaced by the Federal Communications Commission in 1934. Complaints of interference by listeners were plentiful Amateur Radio was a target of other services and of government regulators. A national organization to coordinate our defense was needed. ARRL again took the role.

Many restrictions were softened through the League's organized response. In the '20s, other would-be national Amateur Radio groups reoriented their focus toward the more lucrative commercial sector. ARRL was the only viable national organization remaining by 1930.

Hams gained excellent publicity for emergency communications work during the 1920s. Severe snowstorms and floods disrupted commercial links. In 1924, a blizzard paralyzed half the nation with hams being the sole source of information from some areas. While hams received great publicity, coordination was needed to sell our value to the public. ARRL became a sort of press agency for ham radio.

A form of incentive licensing was urged by ARRL in 1933. A Class A license would carry extra privileges.

The proposal was enacted and in force until World War II. The test consisted of ten essay questions chosen by the examining FCC engineer. in 1936, the CW requirement was raised from 10 to 13 wpm.

Hiram Percy Maxim, WIAW, died in 1936. His call was assigned to ARRL replacing WIMK. A new station was constructed on 7k acres in Newington, Ct. ARRL explored the idea of forming local & statewide chapters but decided to adopt a program for affiliated clubs instead.

A Washington presence for ARRL was introduced in 1944 as the League geared up to get hams back on the air quickly after hostilities subsided. Only four days after fighting stopped on August 17, 1945, hams were back on the air.

Demand for frequency spectrum was high in postwar years. New navigation systems such as LORAN and RADAR needed space. FM Broadcasters were shifted up from 40-50 MHz to 88-108 MHz. Television channels each needed 6 MHz of spectrum in the VHF and UHF ranges threatening Amateur Radio assignments there.

Hams had often been accused of interfering with radio broadcasts. With the coming of television, a serious public relations problem developed. Television stations had weak signals and were few and far between in those days. TV transmissions were interference-prone. Towns passed ordinances banning ham radio or in some cases made hams buy city licenses at a stiff fee. Although ham radio was a federally regulated service, local governments

Continued on Page 11

Orange Park ARC VE Exams

The ARRL accredited VE Team of the Orange Park Amateur Radio Club, Orange Park, FL will be conducting VE Exams at the ARRL National Convention to be held in August 2nd & 3rd in Jacksonville, FL.

The testing session will start at 9 am on Sunday, August 3rd. While walkins will be welcome at that time, the team does request preregistration. Preregistration will be available between the hours of 10 AM until 2 PM on Saturday, August 2nd at a place in the convention hall - to be announced.

WOUNDED HAM-COP EXPECTED BACK ON BEAT SOON

Remember Dave Harvey, KE4VDP, the police officer from Lithonia, Georgia, who was shot in the line of duty last July? When Harvey began the long recuperation from his injuries, his good friend and colleague, Jim Sheppard, KT4FD, requested that hams send Harvey their OSLs to cheer him up and to wish him a speedy recovery (see "QSLs sought for ham radio cop shot in line of duty," The ARRL Letter, Vol 15, No 8.). Harvey, a Technician since 1995, had never even received a QSL before. The response was tremendous! Sheppard this week forwarded this message of gratitude from Dave Harvey, who now is expected to fully recover and return to work:

"Just a word of sincere appreciation for all of you wonderful people in the Amateur Radio community that sent me so many QSL cards and gifts. I received well over 500 cards, and the gifts were truly meaningful. I would like to

say a special thanks to Mrs Maria Lowe from Baldwinsville, New York, who has been in touch continuously through cards and letters and is a very dear person.

"The doctor is very amazed at my recovery after seven operations and says that I should be able to return to my regular duties after one more minor operation. All that will be left to do will be to heal up and get the strength built back up in my arm.

"Thank you all again for your thoughts, prayers and inspiration. After hearing stories from some of you, I realize just how fortunate I really am. 73, Dave Harvey, KE4VDP"

Sheppard said he believes the cards and letters from other hams played a big part in Harvey's recovery and added that he's looking forward to having his friend back on the job.

Hams Aboard Shuttle Flight, KB5UAC to be active from MIR

Ham-astronaut Mike Foale, KB5UAC, took off on the space shuttle Atlantis Thursday, May 15, to swap places with colleague Jerry Linenger, KB5HBR, aboard the Russian Mir space station. The mission is the sixth docking with the Mir space station. During the STS-84 pre-flight press conference, Foale talked about ham radio and his stay aboard Mir. Foale is scheduled to remain aboard Mir until September.

Other hams on the STS-84 crew include Commander Charles Precourt, KB5YSQ, and Mission Specialists Edward Lu, KC5WKJ, Carlos Noriega, KC5WKK, and Jean-Francois Clervoy, KC5WKG. The Atlantis is carrying

badly needed replacement equipment for the Mir space station, including a new oxygen-generation unit.

Foale said he took his ham radio exam in preparation for the STS-56 shuttle mission. "My commander then [Ken

Cameron, KB5AWP] was a pretty serious radio ham, and he encouraged the whole crew to do it," Foale said. "Since then, I've enjoyed taking part in those activities, and I do look forward very much to using the ham radio on the Mir throughout my stay there to talk to anybody who can speak to me in either English, American, or Russian."

Foale said he's open to talk about anything and with anybody. "I really enjoy having slightly longer contacts than just the brief collections of QSOs we do on shuttle. As a long-duration crew member, I'm hoping that [hams] will allow me to talk longer with them, so I can have some contact with them and their countries and understand the people's conditions where they live as I fly over them."

Meanwhile, NASA says its Shuttle Web will provide continuous audio and video coverage of the STS-84 shuttle-Mir mission in a second test of the latest technology for streaming video over the Internet. Working with Technology Interface Inc. and other commercial Internet service and content providers, NASA will use a Dutchmanufactured product called "WebCam" to stream NASA Television programming over the Web. In addition to "cybercasting" the launch and landing, NASA will transmit live video of the activities of the combined Atlantis-Mir crew, all mission briefings and the daily Mission Update program, Links to the video stream through American and European reflectors are available on the NASA Shuttle Web, http:// shuttle.nasa.gov.—Thanks to Philip Chien, KC4YER and to NASA

Rumors Dashed by Kenwood

Kenwood Service still in business: Despite rumors and reports to the contrary, Kenwood Service Corporation is still very much in business on both coasts, according to Kenwood's Paul Middleton, KD6NUH. Kenwood Service Center West held an open house April 25 at its new location at 13030 Alondra Blvd—No. 104, Cerritos, CA 90703-2257; tel 562-483-8740. The service center moved from Long Beach, California, earlier this year. Middleton said Kenwood Service Corporation is

Brown Engineering Inc. 5501 S.W. 25th Court - Hollywood, Florida

Custom Metal Fabrication
Amateur ■ Commercial
e-mail: w4sn@aol.com

H.B. Fraser President

W4SN

Telephone 954-989-4658 separate from Kenwood Communications Corporation, and the two service centers are "independently operated but chartered and regulated by Kenwood." Middleton, who's Kenwood's national sales manager for amateur and marine products, said the new West Coast center employs the same staff that formerly worked for Kenwood at the Long Beach location. No jobs were lost in the transition, he said. Kenwood Service Center East is at 829 Lynnhaven Pkwy—Suite 130, Virginia Beach, VA 23452; tel 757-340-1702.

FCC PROPOSES, ARRL OPPOSES VANITY LICENSE FEE HIKE

Last month, the FCC proposed effectively raising the fee for a vanity call sign from \$30 to \$50 for the 10-year license term. Now, the ARRL has asked the Commission to postpone the higher fee until after all four vanity call sign gates have been opened. In comments filed April 23, the ARRL told the FCC that it does not object to the fee increase per se but said that it wants all hams to have an opportunity to request a specific call sign under the current fee schedule.

The fee increase was among those included for all FCC-regulated services—including broadcasters and commercial satellite services—in the NPRM in MD Docket No. 96-186. Under the proposal, the FCC "rounded up" all FCC-imposed \$3 annual fees to \$5 per year—the lowest fee in the new schedule. The ARRL noted in its comments to the Commission that because projected revenue from the vanity fee

SKIP ON TAPE FOR VISUALLY IMPAIRED

SKIP is put on tape every month for the benefit of the blind or visually impaired. These tapes are available if requested and postage is paid both ways. If you are interested in this valuable service, contact Ms. Desaree Stewart, Library for the Blind, 420 Platt Street, Daytona Beach, FL 32114. Phone 1-800-226-6075.

increase "significantly exceeds" the revenue needed to cover the costs of administering the program, a delay would be reasonable. The ARRL also asked the FCC to limit the vanity call sign fee to the minimum it needs to recoup its costs to administer the vanity program but "without rounding to a significantly higher fee." The FCC adjusts its fee schedule every year.

First the Olympics and Now the Atlanta HamFestival

Although it will lack national TV coverage, the 69th Atlanta HamFestival will be the olympics of ham radio and computers. The event will take place on June 21 & 22 at the City Hall East Exhibition Center, 675 Ponce de Leon Ave., in Atlanta, Georgia. The HamFestival is designated as the ARRL State Convention.

The exhibition center has over 150,000 sq. ft. under cover - including the tailgating. There are nearly 1000 free parking spaces on the south side of the comples with about 500 other free spaces nearby. There is limited and secure RV parking but no hook-ups.

The HamFestival will have 150 commercial booths, 200 tailgate spaces under cover and hundreds of fleamarket tables. The HamFestival will have forums and exams.

Talk-in frequency is 146.82 (-). For information, visit the Atlant ARC home page at:

http://www.saf.com/arc

For telephone information, call: Bill, W4LFC - 770-493-6982 or e-mail BillW4LFC@juno.com

FREE - Tailgate Swap Meet

Saturday June 14th at 7AM at the University of Central Florida Arts Building parking lot. Alafaya Trail, 1st traffic light north of University Blvd. (Centaurus). Talk in on 147.06 (+).

For more info: Frank 407-699-4492/WA3ZBM@juno.com or Mort 407-767-8404/WA2ARS@juno.com
Phone during evening only please. Exams will be given at 1 PM.

Ham Radio & More QSY

The Ham Radio & More radio program has returned to 5.070 MHz for its live weekly broadcast on WWCR. The show airs live Sundays at 6 PM Eastern Time (2200 UTC) on WWCR and on many local commercial stations.—Len Winkler, KB7LPW

Digital Wiretapping Update

The FBI filed a notice in the Federal Register on May 6 requesting comments on implementation of the Communications Assistance for Law Enforcement Act (CALEA). The notice responds to earlier comments submitted by telephone carriers relating to the scope of the FBI's demand for increased wiretapping capacity.

In the last Congress, after several years of refusing to fund CALEA, Congress appropriated \$60 million for implementation. It also authorized the creation of a "Telecommunications Carrier Compliance Fund" that could receive money from law enforcement and intelligence agencies. However, Congress required that the FBI provide an implementation plan before the funds could be spent. In March, the Bureau issued the required plan. The telephone companies have objected to the FBI's proposal, citing issues such as the requirement that cellular phones be able to track location information for individuals, and the amount of funding required to make the required changes to the telecommunications network.

More information on the Digital Telephony issue is available at:

http://www.epic.org/privacy/wiretap/

The ACLU has set up a free Internet-based fax service for individuals who wish to contact their member of Congress to express opposition to funding the Digital Telephony program. The URL is:

http://www.aclu.org/action/calea_act.html

-Electronic Privacy Information Center

Guest Editorial

by Dave Kaiser, Editor - The Arabian Sun

Mr. Kaiser AL7HG (ex-WB4LIV) has lived in Saudi Arabia for 8 years (formerly from Ft. Lauderdale) and is employed by the Saudi Arabian Oil Company. Shocked to read about the recent resignation of the ARRL's RFI Guidlines Committee and the subsequent implementation of the RFI Bill, Dave was moved to write the following editorial opinion.

Dave speaks from the vantage point of an editor and reporter who for many years has been involved with several multimillion dollar industries which were hurt very badly by OSHA and the Consumer Product Safety Commission.

The effects of the FCC's Action and the ARRL's Inaction

The ease with which the Federal Communications Commission instituted Radio Frequency Exposure Guidelines and the lack of concern or response from recognized industry leaders and associations could signal the end of amateur radio.

I initially viewed the situation over FCC Radio Frequency Exposure Guidelines with concern and upon learning of the resignation of the ARRL Bio-Effects Committee and the subsequent FCC ruling - with alarm.

In the 1970s there were similar situations when the Consumer Product Safety Commission and the Occupational Safety and Health Administration attacked numerous industries. As a journalist I reported as several of these industries which did not recognize the threat and defend themselves, were destroyed.

When the suggestion of a product hazard is raised by a government agency is up to that industry, using independent and irrefutable scientific research, to prove its innocence. If efforts are not initiated immediately by the industry, it is assumed to be guilty.

The ARRL seems to think that because appropriate methods of evaluating RF exposure are not available, they can ignore the problem. The fact is that big government doesn't really care and does not even have to justify pointing an accusational finger and they do not have to develop testing methods - but they can take the product off the market.

As an amateur radio operator, I doubt if there is a "threat" posed by RF, but as the father of an eight-year-old-son whom I hope to encourage to become a radio operator, I would welcome a scientific study which would verify this assumption. There have been many similar accusations made about the effects of RF in consumer products such as microwave ovens, and even high power transmission lines - but in this instance the Feds have pointed their finger at a specific industry and a specific product within that industry - which means trouble.

Here you have the proverbial wolf in sheep's clothing; the radio industry, which should actively pursue studies and make recommendations, pulls the bedcovers over their head and says, 'If we can't see it, in the morning it will be gone!"

The FCC Exposure Guidelines have opened the door to the wolf. If radio manufacturers and other concerned groups do not launch independent scientific studies to prove their products are safe, then the end of amateur radio is near.

Many money-making self-interest groups would love to gain commercial access to the valuable frequencies we now occupy. There are even political entities, such as those who lobbied to make it illegal to listen to cellular frequencies, who would like to see all non-commercial use of radio ended. In many countries it's illegal to even possess a general-coverage ra-



Gerry Wentz, KC4EHT Editor

Contributing Editors

Bill Britton, KB4VOL Data 8703 S.E. Jardin St Hobe Sound, FL 33455

Frank Obenauf, W2IAJ QCWA 1582 Pennwood Cir. N. Clearwater, FL 34616-1713

Don Browne, KQ4YM Knights 4805 E. Sunflower Cir. Labelle, FL 33935-5520

Lorraine S. Matthew, AAA9PR Army MARS P.O. Box 3325 Kingman, AZ 86402-3325

Carl Houston, Jr., AFF2P, AF Mars 4911 Helene Road Memphis, TN 38117-6735

Steve Iezzi, KT4FY Computers 3530 Serenity Dr. Melbourne, FL 32935

Gerry Wentz Publisher

The entire contents of SKIP Magazine are copyrighted by Florida Skip, Inc. Items and stories in this magazine may be quoted in other publications with appropriate credit lines and dates.

The Publisher of this magazine does not assume the responsibility of statements made by advertisers. All signed and attributed articles published in the magazine represent the opinions of the writer and/or the source and not those of SKIP.

Images copyright, New Vision Technologies Inc.

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS. The 10th of the month previous to date of publication at:

672 Indian River Drive Melbourne FL 32935

The SKIP is published monthly. One-year subscription is \$12. Printed in U.S.A.

POSTMASTER: Please send address changes to FLORIDA SKIP, 672 Indian River Drive, Melbourne, FL 32935

dio receiver, let alone a transmitter. If the government gets away with questioning RF exposure from transmitters, then the next logical step could be receivers, and computers (which work well as transmitters), and from there where does it end?

What's going to happen is that one morning those legislators, seeing no effort on amateur radio's part to prove its case, and no resistance, will put tighter and tighter restrictions on the hobby and amateur radio will disappear.

I have watched and reported on similar attacks on much larger industries in which the only thing that saved the entire industry was the immediate action of the trade association in financing extensive independent scientific research, the completion of extensive studies refuting the Federal legislators and OSHA, and subsequent agreement to label products (even though the studies refuted the contention) with warning notices.

As if one such problem isn't enough, after the spotlight is put on an industry, other hungry wolves follow. In one such instance, after the OSHA spotlight was put on a potential problem, numerous legal suits were filed by suit-happy consumers, attempting to make a fast buck by suing manufacturers for their supposed negligence in failing to warn the consumers of potential harm from their products.

The wolf is in the house, if we aren't careful he will eat everything in the house and leave us with nothing but a skeleton of what used to be a viable hobby.

Internet reunites Ham-Radio Friends and Adds One

In 1986 my daughter was in a vicious automobile accident after which she spent two years in the hospital, most of the time near death. She somehow survived four cardiac/respiratory arrests. Valerie was pieced and patched together with an assortment of wires and pins. She survived critical brain surgery to install a brain shunt.

At last, she was stable enough to come home with daily visits to the hospital for outpatient care. The ordeal was something only a father could bear. But only a few months after she was home, she suffered a malfunction with her brain shunt that landed her back in the hospital for surgery to replace the defective shunt. Her chances of survival were best described at questionable or unlikely. She did survive but it was on a day to day basis.

Dad didn't survive. I finally ended up in the same hospital with a perforated ulcers, nearly croaking myself having the bottom of my stomach lopped off. Ironically, I was in a room directly under my daughter's room, one floor down. In the course of my rehabilitation, instead of confronting a compassionate Doctor, I came face-to-face with the most brutal drill sergeant I could imagine. I was ordered to get my mind on other activities - any activity -

besides dwelling on my daughter 24-hours a day.

After I got home, when not visiting Valerie, I would force myself to mess with packet radio. For some reason, I decided to go for HF packet and only foreign calls. To be honest, I really didn't have much interest but I plowed on. One evening I linked up with TI4AO in San Jose, Costa Rica and little did I know it would turn out to be the therapy I needed.

In the course of our chats, he found out about my situation and seemed genuinely concerned. He would always tell me to check the next evening to see if we could connect. Soon it became a nightly ritual that I actually looked forward to. We often chatted on the telephone and he urged me to come stay with his family in Costa Rica. Arnoldo, TI4AO ran a successful bus and tour service and had several children, two who were in college in the US. As everyone knows, propagation conditions change and eventually I could no longer contact him on packet. I did occasionally call him and was making plans to take a week and visit him in San Jose. But as things turned out, another crisis at the hospital dashed my plans.

When life returned to normal again, I tried to call Costa Rica but to my dismay, the entire telephone system had been updated and couldn't get in touch with him. I never thought to get his address nor his last name. Looking through callbooks yielded nothing. Eventually, I gave up.

Every few years, I would go on a foray through the frequencies to see if I could contact him. No joy. When Internet became more friendly, I would search everything to find his call but it was a useless exercise. I really wanted to express my most sincere gratitude to him for the many hours he spent talking to me. Unknowingly, he guided me out of the terribly deep rut that I was in.

Several weeks ago, I was just cruising around the Internet, not really looking for anything special when I came across a page for an Internet consultant in Costa Rica. Reading further on the page, I read a brief resume that the gentleman told of his hobby: Amateur Radio. He was Jorge Cuadra, TI2CW. Of course there was an e-mail address at the bottom and I decided to send him a message. I was totally exasperated when the message bounced - undeliverable (an old address I later found out). I tried many times, many days. Finally I went back to the web page and found a phone number. I called and luckily, he spoke very good English. I tried to briefly summarize my search without imposing on his time. I finally told him, "I'm trying to find a ham named Arnoldo and his call is TI4AO and about all I know is that he lives in Heredia (near San Jose)."

"Arnoldo!" he said with excitement "I know him. He runs a bus service here in San Jose."

"My God, yes." I replied in complete disbelief.

"I have his phone number around here somewhere." Jorge said.

I could hear the shuffling of papers in the background and could accurately picture myself in that same hopeless search for a note in a massive pile of mostly trash. But he found it. Soon I could again call my friend Arnoldo after many years and thank him for everything he did for me. Besides, I could tell him that my daughter lives with me at home and although severely handicapped, she is in good health and hasn't had a medical emergency for many years.

Not only was I reunited with an old friend, but I gained

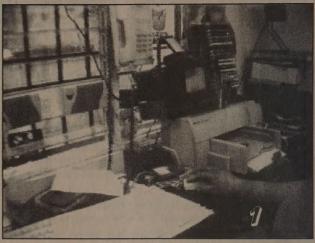
June 1997 · SKIP

another good friend in Jorge. He is as addicted to Internet and all its gimmicks as I am. First thing he did was to call me by Internet Phone through a hub to my landline 800 number. Ordinarily, calling an 800 number from outside US is not possible but through the machinations of Internet, it's possible. Now, a quick call to my 800 number and he tells me to get on Internet Phone and we go to a private phone channel we have set up. Aside from the annoying 2 second delay, we have had many pleasant and interesting conversations. I usually get an e-mail or voice mail (new Internet Phone capability) message from him every day.

Now I have two people urging me to visit Costa Rica. Jorge's parents own a hotel and he assures me that I have free lodging anytime I visit. Arnoldo assures me that I'll not have to worry about transportation anywhere in Costa Rica. His buses, vans, and cars, cart tourists all over the country. Now, if I could just hook up with a ham that owns a restaurant, I'll be in good shape.

I wonder if it was a stroke of good luck or a greater power that led me on my aimless, wandering trip on Internet that day? It's strange because I'm not prone to do that.

Yes, Internet allows you to navigate the world and talk to thousands of people. But the fact remains, true hams experience a bonding, an unwritten code of ethics, and an unusual and inexplicable friendship that goes beyond all barriers of countries, cultures, languages, races and misguided prejudices. Doesn't get any better than that!





1 - Jorge's HQ in Costa Rica. 2 - Jorge TI2CW. 3 - Part of his multi-media system.

ICOM IC2350H dual band mobile

144/440MHz limited quatity





MIKE'S ELECTRONICS

1001 NW 52 STREET

FT LAUDERDALE, FL 33309

ORDER LINE (800)427-3066

BROWARD(954)491-7110

FAX(954)491-7011

COMPUFORUM - Steve Iezzi (KT4FY), Editor

The Battle of the Silicon Barons (Part 2)

The first Intel chipsets to gain acceptance in the market was designed for the 386 processor. Motherboards based on these chips lagged the performance of the competition and were quickly discontinued. This all changed with the introduction of the Pentium processor. The Pentium was designed with a new bus architecture. It supported a 66 megahertz bus, burst transfers and 64 bit data paths. Since Intel designed this new bus, they took advantage of internal by developing a motherboard chip set in parallel with the processor. Competing vendors would get bus specifications from Intel but they were at a disadvantage as Intel could test with internally released parts. Intel now produces and sells more chip sets than anyone else. And in all fairness, it's this writer's opinion that they make the best as well.

Up until now, processor manufacturers would graciously release the operating specifications of their new releases. A new processor wasn't guaranteed success in the market unless customers would buy it. Support hardware and software was required and Processor manufacturers could not develop everything in a timely fashion and get it to market. The release of Symmetric Multi-processing brought the first patented Intel standard. APIC or Advanced programmable interrupt controller would be a patented Intel standard. Motherboards that supported the APIC standard could run more than processor at a time. Microsoft, Sun and Linux all supported this standard and if you wanted to run it, you had to use an Intel processor and Intel chip set. Cyrix and AMD have proposed their own SMP standard, OpenPIC, but as of yet, no motherboard vendors have supported it.

With the guaranteed popularity of faster x86 execution units, there is less of a requirement to share the details of the processor interfaces. Beginning with the Pentium Pro, Intel has begun patenting the characteristics of the interface between the processor and the chip set. If you want to run a Pentium Pro processor, your only choice for motherboards is based on the Intel chip set. Boards for the Pentium Pro, dubbed Socket 8, are double the price of a

Socket 7 (Pentium compatible) card in spite of the fact that Pro motherboards do not need second level cache, a pricey item. The cost difference is directly related to the higher price charged for the chip set that has no competition.

Since the interface for Socket 8 motherboards is a patented specification, Intel's competition was forced to standardize on Socket 7 or venture out on their own. NexGen tried their own implementation and failed miserably. When AMD bought the rights to a new sixth generation NexGen chip, the first thing they did was translate the interface to Socket 7.

The joint effort between NexGen and AMD has finally released a part. The new processor, code named the K6, was released to a welcoming audience in the first week of April. Pricing was competitive and the initial reviews proclaimed that AMD had for the first time released the fastest x86 on the market.

The K6 is a marvel of technology. At over 8 million transistors, it's the largest processor on the market. Every technology available for making fast computers is part of this processor's architecture. In a last minute effort to maintain compatibility with Intel's future releases, the K6 even implemented the MMX (MultiMedia eXtension) instruction set. AMD also took it one step further. By separating the MMX execution from the Floating Point unit, the K6 can operate on both instructions in the same machine state. Intel opted to

share the MMX registers with the FPU. A time wasting task switch is required to implement FPU and MMX in the Pentium MMX chips at the same time.

The K6 parts are available for purchase but supplies have become scarce as large OEM vendors such Digital equipment Corporation and Hewlett Packard have inked deals with AMD for big quantities. Intel has dropped the price

of the top end Pentium chips in response to the AMD release. Competition continues to work in the consumers favor.

If AMD could claim the fastest x86 processor, the claim was short lived. Within weeks after the formal announcement and release of the K6 processor, Intel released production quantities of the Pentium II. The Pentium II, formerly code named the Klamath, would sport the Pentium Pro core with more cache, more execution units and higher execution speeds. The Pentium II was developed with a new motherboard interface called Slot 1. Slot 1 is actually a board connector rather than a chip socket. The Pentium II ships as a card with the cache and heatsink included. Slot 1 is patented as was Socket 8. Slot 1 compatible will use only Intel chip sets.

For the money, AMD still has Intel beat. The K6 running at 233 megahertz can operate in a motherboard available for less than \$100 and bests the Pentium and Pentium Pro in most recognized benchmarks. The initial price of Pentium II running at 266 megahertz in a motherboard will be double the price of the slightly slower K6. With the \$500 that you save, you could add lots of memory and buy some software for your new PC.

The Pentium II supports symmetric multi-processing based on the APIC

Continued on page 8

The World's largest Ham Dealer is located right here in Florida! AMATEUR ELECTRONIC SUPPLY®

ORLANDO: 621 Commonwealth Avenue tel. 407- 894-3238 • toll free 1-800-327-1917 Exports/se habla Español 407-898-1166 fax 407-894-7553

CLEARWATER: 14100 U.S.19 N. #124 tel. 813-539-7348 • toll free 1-888-226-7388 fax 813-524-4971

Service to Radio Amateurs for over 39 years!

ALINCO · AZDEN · ICOM · KENWOOD · SGC · STANDARD · YAESU
...and other lines of Ham Equipment, Antennas & Accessories.

Other locations...
MILWAUKEE, WI • WICKLIFFE, OH • LAS VEGAS, NV

1-800-558-0411 1-800-321-3594 1-800-634-6227

standard. For servers and power systems, this will be the fastest choice. But the average PC buyer doesn't buy servers. The market is still on the desktop and at home.

Cyrix and IBM cornered a significant portion of the processor market with the 6x86 processor. The 6x86, code named the M1, was developed with a sixth generation architecture similar to the Pentium Pro. However, Cyrix's part was Socket 7 compatible and used lower cost fabrication methods to make it more price competitive. The 6x86 performed very well but suffered from some early bugs and very high power supply requirements. The cost of the lower cost fabrication line was power and the 6x86 gobbled lots of it. Cyrix solved the problem by shipping the processor with its very own heat sink and fan. This screamer, running three times faster than a comparable Pentium fan, could bring the temperature of the chip down but the not the board regulator. Motherboard vendors sized their heat sinks for the Pentium with its low power requirements. Boards running the Cyrix chips would overheat and lose regulation. The system would then generate memory errors and generally run unstable. Windows 95 was particularly susceptible with the famous blue screen of death when the software detected some sort of illegal processor execution.

Continued enhancements by Cyrix and IBM (the fabrication partner) have brought the power requirements down and improved reliability. Until the release of the Pentium MMX and the K6, the 6x86 was an excellent buy.

Recently, with the gaming market has started developing 3 dimensional (3D) rendering games that heavily use the floating point unit. Weaknesses in the 6x86 floating point unit have brought it under fire as it has benchmarked poorly for some games. Cyrix is claiming foul as the games were specifically written to take advantage of the architecture of the Pentium but Cyrix also admits that they have concentrated their efforts on improving the general purpose computing instructions in its 6x86. The floating point unit is not as capable as the one in the Intel

parts.

Except for these kinds of games, the 6x86 performs very well and with recent drastic price cuts of the 6x86 chips, they are a great processor for the money, selling for about \$100 less than their Pentium counterpart.

Cyrix has also been busy with new development. The latest implementation, code named the M2, will double the thirty-two bit performance of the 6x86 and increase clock speeds as well. The first test results of a prototype M2 sow it to be faster than the Pentium MMX and K6 at the same clock rate. It remains to be seen if the part can be produced for a competitive price.

For now, the releases of new processors with potential for bugs has forced the price of yesterday's speed demons down low enough that mere mortals can afford them. That's where I like to be, running on the tried and true for lots less money.

Next month, I'll talk about the evolving bus speed controversy. Will Socket 7 live on???

'97 Atlanta HamFestival

& Computer Expo

June 21 & 22, 1997 City Hall East Exhibition Center 640 North Ave. - Atlanta, GA

- * EXCELLENT Location
- * Lots of FREE Parking
- * Covered Tailgating!
- * Indoor Flea Market!
- * Dealers
- * Exams

- * Prizes
- * Manufacturers
- * Forums
- * Computers
- * Software
- * Electronics

Tickets \$6 in advance, \$8 at the door Talk-In at 146.820(-); alternate at 145.35(-)

For More Information:

Commercial Exhibitors: e-mail dickb@akorn.net or call 770-466-0099
Flea Market Vendors: e-mail BillW4LFC@juno.com, or fax 770-493-6982
or mail request to: P. O. Box 942150, Atlanta, GA 31141-2150

General Information available at: http://www.saf.com/arc (or chairman 'lfc at 770-493-8438)



ARRL Georgia State Convention

Army MARS - Lorraine S. Matthew (AAA9PR), Editor

The Army MARS community was saddened to learn of the death of the Army MARS Director for Puerto Rico on 17 April 1997. Mr. Ramon R. Santos/ABM3PR served in that capacity for several years guiding his Army MARS members through any number of severe tropical storms and hurricanes. A feeling for his spirit and courage was given to me in a message from Mr. Earl Craig/ABM3VI, Army MARS Director in the Virgin Islands. These two gentlemen worked closely and I have had the pleasure to meet Mr. Craig. Mr. Craig indicated that Mr. Santos had lost part of an arm and leg while in military service for the United States. This did not stop him from climbing poles and such to work on antennas and radio equipment. He held an extra class license and "was willing to help anyone who was in need." Others who have worked with him hold the same high regard. Thus, Mr. Santos represented well the spirit of Army MARS.

His passing will impact two of the Florida Army MARS members who maintained a radio net supporting both the Virgin Islands and Puerto Rico. John "Deacon" Silsby/AAR4IY and Joseph "Warren" Pitts/AAR4GB were in charge of maintaining the HF net through which the islands could be an integral part of Army MARS in the United States and through which any support needed by the islands could be coordinated. They both gave much time and effort into making this a very effective link for islands and mainland both. With the storm histories of 1995 and 1996, this link was most valuable for both locations. While Florida was not adversely impacted in 1996, the islands were and contact was maintained whenever possible during these crisis periods. Both of these Army MARS members are to be congratulated for the work they are doing.

Air Force MARS also had a similar loss with the passing of Clyde V. Preece/AFF8HI, Hawaii's Air Force MARS Director. I had the pleasure of talking to Mr. Preece by telephone and by mail. He sent me a copy of his report to AFMARS which described an unusual training exercise — unusual in two respects. The training utilized an operation of service to the community and it was tri-service interoperational.

You have read many times in this column about the ultimate goal of true interoperability among the three MARS services. Mr. Preece played a large part in helping to coordinate this operation for Hawaii. Typically, he gave Mr. Bill Rhoden/ABM6JD, Army MARS Director for Hawaii, credit for much of the coordination and the fine results that were attained.

"On 8 December 1996, MARS members in Hawaii provided the communications for the 1996 Honolulu Marathon. This race was witnessed by an international audience as over 30,000 runners from Africa, Europe, Asia, and the United States participated.

"The event was hosted by the State of Hawaii and the City and County of Honolulu.

"MARS members from Air Force, Army, and Navy participated. The MARS direction was coordinated by Bill Rhoden/ABM6JD HI Chief of Army MARS. ...

"Communications were provided by MARS from the Marathon Headquarters to 14 remotely located aid stations, and emergency vehicles, ambulances, police, fire, and other Marathon vehicles. With few exceptions (i.e. the headquarters station) emergency power was used during the entire 12 hour period. The locations of the aid stations were remote and blocked by hills which required circuit discipline and frequent relay of traffic.

"There were no communications failures nor lack of communication to any vehicle nor aid station participating in the event.

"MARS provided a demonstration of capability to the State of Hawaii, City and County of Honolulu, and their emergency services including police and ambulance. This was an excellent training exercise and provided both a test of emergency power, disciplined communication over a wide area, and coordination between agencies. The 12 hour duration of the event and the variety of Hawaiian Island terrain covered provided unique emergency communication training which will be particularly valuable in a future emergency such as a typhoon or tidal wave."

These two MARS Directors will surely be missed by the entire MARS

communities. Our heartfelt condolences go to their families and friends.

All of MARS goes forward with examples like these to follow — *Proud*, *Professional*, and *Ready*.



Read the budget for yourself

House Speaker Newt Gingrich (R-Georgia), saying he wanted to give the American people a chance to see the proposal, along with all related documents, unfiltered by the media and pundits, started putting the relevant documents on the Internet.

In a speech to the House of Representatives, Gingrich said the documents on the "Balanced Budget for America's Future" home page at

http://hillsource.house.gov/budget.html

will give the American people the opportunity to see the budget proposal "at the same time as the Washington insiders, have all the knowledge we have, and truly move toward a balanced budget in the right way with the American people participating.

"Every talk-radio show host, every single potential critic, every columnist will have access to the same data, but so will citizens without editing by anyone," Gingrich said.

The Web site currently contains a letter from Gingrich and Senate Majority Leader Trent Lott (R-Mississippi) to President Clinton confirming several aspects of the Balanced Budget Agreement, and a 23-page summary of the Agreement.

The Web site also includes a "Hot Topics" section which will include additional information about the balanced budget plan.

All documents on the Web site are available in WordPerfect 6.0 and Adobe Acrobat formats.

Air Force MARS - Carl Houston, Jr. (AFF2P), Editor

Effective in April, the Chiefs of the MARS services put into action increased inter operability of Air Force and Army MARS for the purpose of coordination and movement of message traffic. This is implemented after an exhaustive study of assets of the combined services, and their potential ability to provide a better and faster means of processing and delivering message traffic in a timely manner. The "merging" of the two entities will enhance our capacity due to increased area coverage. The affiliate membership is authorized joint inter operability using HF and VHF-UHF voice and/or digital networks, MARS repeaters, message centers, digipeaters and any other means on a shared basis. The service assigned the operating frequency used will be the controlling authority, i.e. NCS, and will be under the supervision of the respective state or regional MARS management. All members checking into any nets will observe the operational characteristics for that service, and heed the host services' NCS guidelines. All licensed MARS members are eligible to enter nets, however, individual MARS service management personnel in any geographic area may limit the eligibility criteria. There will be certain nets, such as command nets and contact with ships at sea, aircraft, military gateways, and military stations that will not be permitted to all. The standard 16-line message format will be retained for message use. The routing of traffic will be in accordance with those used by the host service. Members will report participation in nets other than their own thru the service they are affiliated with. The period of transition for this new program should have a smooth and trouble-free path, but in any case not covered by the above information, or if there is any problem observed, send the information through the your service's chain of command (state or regional) for resolution. Ron Pace, AFA2PN and formerly AFF2O, reported the following first quarter '97 stats: Membership totals for Region 2 by state: Alabama, 36; Florida, 154; Georgia, 87; Kentucky, 16; North Carolina, 90; South Carolina. 11; Tennessee, 57; Virginia, 81; West Virginia; 29, for a total of 561. The total time spent in all categories for the first quarter was 40,754 hours. This again shows the membership's enthusiasm and Vic Carson, AFF2C, wishes to thank each member for their assistance in maintaining this high figure of participation.

ARNOLD AFB, TN...The BST members at Arnold participated in the occasional 'field day' exercise on 20 April. This is one of the more active Base Support Teams in Region 2 that has been reported to this editor. For the record, (as stated on their web page) Arnold Air Force Base, also known as AEDC (Arnold Engineering Development Center) is not a typical Air Force organization. AEDC is comprised of the Air Force headquarters, support staff and functional directorates, and three service and support contractors and their subcontractors. The Air Force staff provides management direction, resource allocation, oversight and contract administration. The center's annual budget is in excess of \$300 million. The total work force at AEDC is approximately 3,500 people. Approximately 300 are Air Force military personnel or DoD civilians. AEDC supports the development and testing of super and sub-sonic aircraft and spacecraft systems with three on-site major test facilities. Eleven turbine engine and rocket motor test cells are devoted to testing liquid and solid fuel propulsion systems for advanced aircraft, missiles, satellites and space launch vehicles. The wind tunnels are used to test the effect of airflow on large-scale models of high-speed aircraft and missiles at flight conditions from Mach 1.5 to Mach 10. One of the final space shuttle configurations was tested at the center in 1976.(see picture).



Arnold AFB is 70 miles SE of Nashville, 70 miles NW of Chattanooga, and two miles west of I-24. It is located between Tullahoma to the West, Manchester to the North, and Winchester to the South and is situated on a 40,000-acre reservation. The industrial area of the base uses about 3,600 acres of the total. Woods Reservoir, a 4,000acre man-made lake, is located on Arnold. Here, on the reservoir, is where we pick up our story on the MARS BST field day activities... On the afternoon of 20 April, the day of the scheduled field exercise, the weather was perfect for outdoor projects. The BST team members began arriving and before long "field expedient" antennas were installed (in trees) and the preliminary testing on all equipment was completed. Final plans and some hands-on training and discussion followed, and the team was then ready to handle traffic. Problems that occurred previously did not present any difficulty this time, and the team had excellent propagation when 2S1 opened. Team members assisting were: AFA2ES, Stephen Thompson, AFB2CK, Charlotte Prince, AFA2RH, George Stone, AFA2TB, Tom Baskin, AFA2SM, Jack Hennon, and AFA2OR, Lynne Hamrick. The crew had a very good time, even including the work details. The Arnold team is led by Stephen M. Thompson, AFA2ES, IMD, who has been instrumental in revitalizing the program there. Since last year, the team has trained and tested to assure they could augment with needed communications for the base in an emergency situation, their primary mission. They have benefitted by the addition of a VHF repeater with excellent area coverage, an new emergency personal paging system, and other helpful items to keep the continuity of communications service readily available if ever needed. The team has regular (at least monthly) strategy meetings which are usually well-attended. (Thanks to AFB2CK for her contribution to this report).

HOW IT'S DONE IN THE DESERT... (Reliable communications, that is). From the USAF WWW Pages: This dusty, windy site for communications has enhanced the area security with the installation of a satellite dish at Prince Sultan Air Base, Saudi Arabia. Microwave communications and a 600 line voice switch has been set up. Additional phone lines have also enhanced day-to-day regular business and personal calling. Members from Dhahran and Riyadh are being co-located under

a composite wing which has been developed for better force protection due to the June '96 Dhahran bombing.



These high-tech, latest state-of-the-art installations throughout the world are indicative of how well Air Force commanders can easily keep in touch with their deployed units. Most, if not all, of these systems also have digital capability - even the internet (with e-mail!) can be accessed to some degree. They have developed really great military toys since my time was up!

AIM HIGH!

DISCLAIMER: This is not an official United States Air Force release, and does not necessarily reflect the views of the Air Force or the MARS.

More on Enigma

Josef Darmento, W4SXK from Merritt Island, FL submitted a brief but interesting annotation to the Enigma article by Carl Houston, Jr. that appeared in the April Issue of Skip Magazine.

The man credited with breaking the code used by the ENIGMA enciphering device was a mathematical genius - Alan Turing. As Houston correctly states, the Poles had indeed been successful in deciphering Enigma messages for years, but these were the early Mark I mechanical machines. In preparation for the conquest of Europe, the Germans in 1937 introduced a refined electronic version that was only slightly larger than an ordinary typewriter, simple to use, and capable of an incredible number of permutations- something like 3 x 1018 ... that's 30 followed by 18 zeros! Even a captured machine was useless without the key being used at a particular time on a particular day!

Turing was a mathematician and had been working on a computer. Along with other mathematicians he was collared to work at the MI.5 code center in Bletchley, away from London. By April 1940 they had built a computer with 2500 tubes capable of processing 25000 characters per secondjust in time to cope with the latest version of the enigma machine named "FISH", By comparison, the U.S. computer ENIAC built in 1942 at the University of Pennsylvania had 18000 tubes.

Even with their smaller computer, the English were able to intercept and decode Enigma messages continually, and quickly. In many cases they were able to "meet" spies whom the Germans deposited on their long shoreline at night. Some

of these were shot out of hand, depending on circumstances of their landing; others were impressed into becoming double agents and broadcasting disinformation.

Poor Turing. Despite the invaluable service he performed for his country, he was unable to find a job after the war. He was a homosexual - gay in today's parlance. Eventually he committed suicide. Maybe he should have moved to San Francisco; the silicon valley could probably have used him.

A play **BREAKING THE CODE** (appropriate title) starring Sir Derek Jacoby, a magnificent actor, played in London. Jacoby in fact brought the play to New York; I'm told a video of it has been seen on PBS. Although I would doubt it, I hope poor Turing is somehow made aware of his latent fame!!!

Contionued from Front page

were encroaching. ARRL helped in beating back many such local restrictions.

FCC inspectors were quick to order hams to observe quiet hours during prime time television. Decisions were arbitrary. In 1949, ARRL began a closer working relationship with the American Red Cross.

The number of specialties available to hams grew and so did discord among segments. Discussions of expanded voice privileges provoked formation of the Society for American Radio Amateurs (SARA) in 1948. Members were mainly hard core CW operators.

Another group, the National Amateur Radio Council (NARC), was comprised mainly of proponents of 75 and 20 meter voice sub-band expansion. Neither group achieved widespread support. Both faded away in the early '50s.

Growth became a larger factor. From 1954 to 1959, the number of hams grew 78%. from 115,000 to 205,000 while ARRL membership grew 79%. to 77,000. Technicians gained access to six meters in 1955 and the novice sub-band 40 meter segment was doubled in width.

In 1958, QST circulation topped 100,000 and the 3 millionth ARRL Handbook was sold. Publications became a bigger slice of the League's income. Serious threats to ham HF assignments were feared in 1959 as the World Administrative Radio Conference was held in Geneva. Through lobbying by ARRL and IARU, cuts were minimal. Ham bands in the Western Hemisphere were pre served en toto.

The late '50s saw emergence of a new mode into mainstream Amateur Radio. Single Sideband (SSB) is a derivative of AM but through reduction of unnecessary elements in AM mode, the amount of spectrum occupied is much less making it a more spectrum efficient form of transmission. SSB was expensive and traditionalist AM hams fought hard to retard growth of the new mode. But by 1970, most all HF voice was SSB.

1962 is a key year in the development of our license structure. In July, the ARRL Executive Committee expressed alarm about deteriorating operating practices and mistuned equipment. The seed was sown for "incentive licensing" where those with higher grade licenses got increased bandspace. Before the concept, there was little incentive to upgrade.

The February 1963 QST editorial called for a return to incentives to improve one's skill. It called for reactivating of the Advanced Class license and institution of restricted sub-bands. According to ARRL, opinion on the concept of incentive licensing was about 50-50. But some estimate that only about 20%. really favored the idea. Incentive licensing goes down as a key turning point in Amateur Radio.

Despite vociferous objections by many, ARRL supported incentive licensing. FCC agreed and band segment restrictions were phased in starting in 1968.

Internet Update

Comprehensive Bible Study Tool

If you are studying the bible, there's a great online resource for you. The Goshen Web site offers eight translations of the good book, complete verse passage lookup plus word/phrase/boolean search tools, verse/tool cross reference, three topical resources, Greek & Hebrew lexical resources, three bible dictionaries, three commentaries and study aids. World wife web:http://www.goshen.net/bible/

Your Own Online Shopping Assistant

A Seattle-based company has developed what it calls an intelligent shopping assistant and you can try it out now on the Web site. Jango, as it is called, is available now in beta, for Windows 95 and NT. You enter the name of the product or service you are looking for and the software automatically searches for it online and prepares a report for you. The report includes things like detailed product information, comparative reviews, product pricing, and manufacturers' specifications, say the makers. World Wide Web: http://www.jango.com

Monster FTP Sites List

Just like the title says, this is a monster list of FTP sites. If you don't know what an FTP site is, FTP is file transfer protocol and its basically a site full of files that people can log into and download. The full list is huge and is still 400-kilobytes when compressed. If you want to spend a lot of time searching for files, we recommend downloading the full list, or just one section to check it out, and then loading it into a word processor and searching for keywords. World Wide Web: http://hoohoo.ncsa.uiuc.edu/ftp/

Almost Everything You Need To Know About 56k Modems

You can't have failed to notice the fuss being made over a new breed of modems that offer 56-kilobits per second (kbps), compared to the 28.8-kbps or 33.6-kbps that most people have, over conventional analog telephone lines. This Web page is a great place for anyone to start discovering exactly what they are, how they do what they do and the disadvantages to using the system. It's written in an easy to understand way, and won't overload you with technical terms, so is very easy to read. World Wide Web: http://www.56k.com

Motoring News, Reviews And Resources

This is one of the best sites we've found on motoring, and great whether you're male or female. The Woman Motorist Web site is packed with information including reviews of new cars, the latest industry news, online chat, and features on important issues in the news, such as air-bag safety. There is also a very useful handbook for car-buyers that will tell you what to look for and how to get a fair deal. World Wide Web: http://www.womanmotorist.com

Making More Of E-mail

Electronic mail is about much more than sending messages to friends or business associates. It can be used as the transport mechanism for electronic commerce, distribution of news and entertainment and be used to carry sensitive documents when appropriate security systems are employed. A group that knows all about this, and has been established

to promote wider use of e-mail, is the Internet Mail Consortium. The group's home page has lots of resources and links to information on just about everything to do with e-mail, from uses to the technical side of the system. World Wide Web: http://www.imc.org

A More Focused TV Guide For You

GIST, which claims to be the largest independent TV Web site, has launched a new service, the first online topic-specific TV-listings. If you want to know just about the movies, sports, sci-fi, kids, news, comedy or lifestyle programming on now, you can with the new guides. There's also the chance to get local listings for markets across the U.S. and all the major cable TV channels. The site is very easy to navigate and use. World Wide Web: http://www.gist.com

The Nuseum Opens Online

The Nuseum is the first interactive museum dedicated to the news, based in Arlington, Virginia. It was opened last month by vice president Al Gore and its Web site includes full details of what's on offer and information on upcoming special events. You can also access an online version of the Journalists Memorial, a memorial to slain journalists around the world. World Wide Web: http://www.newseum.org

Queen Expands Web Site

According to reports, more than 12.5-million users have surfed over to the Queen's Web site in the UK. As a result of the popularity the capacity has been expanded to keep up with demand. It's also very current, featuring a picture of Her Majestý with new prime minister Tony Blair and a picture caption describing John Major as former prime minister. World Wide Web: http://www.royal.gov.uk

The Telephone Numbers You Need In An Emergency

There are telephone help lines for just about every conceivable problem you might have but where can you find the numbers? The Web Shaker Directory is a single place to go for many help line numbers on subjects from abortion and adoption to sexual problems and suicide prevention. The directory covers American numbers only and also lists numbers for the hearing impaired. World Wide Web: http://www.webshaker.com/directory/

All About The Next Century

The Millennium Institute Web site provides lots of information on the approaching millennium. It turns out the next century really does begin on January 1, 2001, a complete explanation is given, but we found out much more. There are some scary statistics about the earth and what it will be like next century, plus plenty of other resources related to the next century. World Wide Web: http://www.igc.apc.org/millennium/services.html

Astronomy Site Updated

The Baton Rouge Astronomical Society has revised its Web site, which now includes an even better selection of resources for people interested in astronomy. We're not talking just links to NASA here. There are links to weather resources, commercial suppliers of astronomy goods, links to observatories and much more. World Wide Web: http://www.eatel.net/~fred/bras/bras.html

Florida Online

Central Florida's Premier Internet Provider Announces

150 hours per month!

(Additional Hours only \$0.50 per hour)

Free Personal Home Pages!



* Text-Based Dial-In,

* SL/IP (Graphical)

**and PPP (Graphical)



Shareware / Freeware packages are available for OS/2, Windows, Macintosh and Linux!



★ Use Netscape to surf the World Wide Web! Do your research, shop on-line, check out the latest news from around the world, listen to music or chat with freinds, all on the Web!



* Looking for Files? Search the archives of the CICA library, log directly into IBM, Microsoft and Apple, or get all the newest files and animations, and so much more, all free!



* Into games and gaming? Log into one of the many game BBS' or servers on the Internet! Choose your favorite game, and you will find there are more than just a few places to go and engage against other adventurers!

Owned and operated by KC4UFI (Jerry Russell), and KD4MIW (Sharon Russell).

For more information, or to sign up, please call:

In Brevard County:

635-8888

Toll-free statewide: 1-800-676-2599



QCWA News - Frank Obenauf (W2IAJ), Editor

WHEN DOES YOUR CHAPTER MEET?

Florida has many visitors who are QCWA members and might like to visit your Chapter if they knew when you meet. The following is a list of Chapters In Florida. Let us know when you meet.

12 Southeast Florida

32 Gator Chapter - 1st Sat. of each month, Stacey's on

Missouri Ave., Clearwater 11:30

AM

45 Citrus Chapter - 3rd Sat. of each month, Stacey's

Wekiva Square, Altamonte Springs.

11.30

48 Treasure Coast

53 Suncoast Chapter

62 Suwannee Chapter

66 Spaceport Chapter

84 Florala Chapter

96 Gateway Chapter

107 Central Florida

111 Palm Beach Chapter

121 Highlands Florida

128 Pelican Chapter - 3rd Wed. of each month, Stacey's

Tyrone Gardens 10 Ave & 28 St. No, St. Petersburg, 11:30 AM

131 Gulf Coast Chapter

148 Hernando Chapter - 3rd Wed. of each month, Pier 688,

Rt. 41 So. 11:30 AM

152 Royal Palm Chapter

173 Golden Triangle Chapter

195 Sun City Center Chapter - 2nd Thursday of Jan., Mar.,

Sept.& Nov.Maggies Point Plaza, Ruskin. 11:30 AM 196 Edison

Chapter

Gator Chapter #32 - by Bart Bridge, W2ZYQ

The meeting was attended by 43 members and guests. No visitors but a couple of members we hadn't seen for sometime were present; Harry Larson W0JK, Dot and Lou Weber K2HWS. Harry was first licensed in 1933 as W90SX and will receive his 65 year certificate next year. Lou was first licensed in 1928 as W2AEJ and will receive his 70 year certificate next year. Missing this month was a visitor who was with us for the February and March meetings. Howard Beard WA2FLX died suddenly March 14, 1997 while visiting his sister in Penngrove, CA. Howard retired from the United States Air Force in 1957 with the rank of Colonel. In 1975 he retired from the Air Development Center at Griffiss AFB Rome, NY. He was 80 years old, a life member of QCWA and Mohawk Valley Chapter #42.

President Frank Obenauf W2IAJ reported on his wife Louise. She has been in poor health for some time. Frank had been caring for her at home, but when her condition worsened she was taken to the hospital. She was then transferred to an assisted care facility near their home. Louise shows some improvement and is looking forward to going home.

Art Monsees W4BK reported that all the logs for this year's QCWA QSO Party have been processed and will be forwarded to Headquarters next week. Treasurer Bill Carpenter WA2KFH reported a balance on hand of \$915.96.

The program this month was presentation of Service Awards. President Frank Obenauf W2IAJ awarded the following certificates: Joe Swingle W9DGW and Bob White W1QMW, 50 years. May Burke W3CUL, 60 years and CENTURY. Frank Obenauf W2IAJ, George Seibert K4KVD and Louis Weber K4HWS each 65 years and CENTURY. Al Burke W3VR, Virgil Lewis W2NXW and Elmer Little W4ZFD each 70 years and CENTURY. Harry Cole W4DLL, Bob Fairchild K4FG and Harold Johnson K4GVB each CENTURY.

The President announced that the HAL BATES AWARD Committee had met and selected a member for the Gator Chapter's most prestigious award. This award is named to honor the memory of the founding President Harold Bates W4OIN. Hal served as President for three years and went on to fill the office of Secretary/Treasurer/Publicity.

The Award, a plaque, is to be presented to the Gator Chapter member that, in the opinion of the committee, has demonstrated dedicated service to the Chapter, Amateur Radio in general and to fellow Hams. The President then called on the Secretary Bart Bridge W2ZYQ to accept the plaque. Bart, thanked the Chapter saying that it was Hal who first invited him to the Gator Chapter meetings and encouraged him to join QCWA and the Gators.

This is truly an honor to receive this Award. I shall cherish it along with the memory of Hal. I recall the very last time we met, two days before his death. His kidneys had failed and he lay in bed. I asked him "how are you doing?" Without a moments hesitation he said "I don't know I've never done this before!" Hal, a unique individual, always available for wise advice and council. And always with a story about his career in radio. Thank you each and all!

This was the last meeting until Fall for a number of our members, as they will soon be heading North. We wish them a safe journey and look forward to their return in the Fall.

Birthdays this month are: Bob Kliber KR8G, Harry Larson WOJK, Phil Winters K8THT, Dennis Griffin WA2CEB and Arlene White wife of Bob W1OMR. Anniversary this month for Dorothy and Harry Larson W0JK.

FLORIDA SKIP, a publication of, for and by Florida Amateurs offers a rebate to radio clubs that process subscriptions through the club secretary. \$2.00 for each renewal and \$3.00 for each new subscription. The rates are; one year \$12.00, two years \$23.00 and three years \$34.00. If you are interested contact the Secretary.

Gator Chapter Net meets on the K9BSL repeater Saturday mornings at 0900 local. The frequency is 145.290 down 600 KHz

Continued next page



Florida Traffic Nets

FMTN by Rich, KA4ZYM

The Florida Mid-day Traffic Net (FMTN) meets daily at 1600Z on 7247.00Khz to handle Formal NTS Traffic into, out of, and within the state of Florida. The Net is a member of The National Traffic System and registered with the ARRL. We also send representatives to the 4th-Region and Eastern Area Nets, as well as the 5th-Region and Central Area Nets. We have Aplink Stations and can handle Formal Traffic going to any country with which we have Third-Party Traffic Agreements.

For the month of April our stats were: QNI=364, QTC=435, QND=643 with 30 consecutive sessions. I would like to thank the folks in Lakeland who generated so much great traffic from the EAA Sun-and-Fun Fly-In. Rip-AA4HT, Dennis-KB4MON Chet-AB4XK, et al, just to name a few. I would also like to thank Eber-W7AMM for bringing all of the WW II reunion traffic to the Net. AND,....to ALL of the great folks who ARE the Net regulars; Ms. Laura-WA9VND, Mort-WX4H (Mr. Dependable), Charlie-NR2F, Gary-KE4DNO, and so many other stations that check in with us I say "Let's do it all again NEXT Month". I invite you to join us any day-EVERY-DAY-on MID-DAY, 73, Rich-KA2YZM

Gator Net - by Dan, W4DL

Dan, W4DL Net Manager decided to discontinue the 8:00AM Sunday net due to very little QNI and QTC. The frequency will be guarded in emergencies.

George K4JI still has problems. He has been off the net for a while and needs a walker to move around. He has help at home. Andy, W4IYT is still busy with his TV recordings. Chris, N4EKC is gone again. A friend needs a copilot so Chris is taking the job and will visit relatives while he is at it. Floyd, N4FL is a steady QNI. His efforts are appreciated. Dan, W4DL had two operations in one day - prostate and hernia. He says he survived because he only had to have two days worth of hospital food. W4VQQ, JB formerly NCS on Sundays, will take NCS on Mondays. We are glad to report that Al, W3VR and Mae, W3CUL are still much evident daily despite their problems. They keep their skeds and traffic going. Charlie, WA4EYU is still running around between traffic for the net.

QFN Report - April 1997 by Phil, KA4FZI

Stats: qni = 779 qtc = 639 qnd = 1152 Sessions: 60

The Lakeland EAA Fly-In gave us the major challenge for the month of April. All those helping with the traffic deserve a special pat on the back and a fist full of Hersheys. AA4HT and AB4XK were the driving force that fed the 800+ messages onto the airwaves. They manned the originating station for long hours every day of the airshow and kept skeds several times a day. In addition to the load that supplied all the nets, much of the out-of-state traffic was sent digitally by AB4XK, WX4H, and KA4FZI using amtor/pactor. MBO's at N4SS and WX4J really got a workout along with Nick, who was in the process of upgrading his station and fighting new software. Chet developed a new message form for visitors to fill out that leaves no room for errors. Ask him for a copy if you are doing a message center. I'm sure he can customize it to your needs. Creating the newsletter for OFN and coming up with fool-proof message blanks is just frosting on the cake we all enjoy from AB4XK. Chet also volunteers to fill in as NCS and rep to the region nets in addition to his regular assigned duties as 4rn rep Wednesdays and Saturdays and rn5 rep on Fridays. Thanks for all your extra work, Chet.

My appreciation goes to all those who have accepted regular positions of service and who volunteer in addition. AB4XK, WX4H, K4SCL, W4KIX quickly come to mind. I often call on Woody with his booming signal and mid-state location to facilitate and QNB. I can't imagine any net enjoying greater teamwork than QFN. We are loosing our only Bradenton station, KE1AF, back to CT, but we welcome a new and active station WB2FGL, Tony in Starke

I received a suggestion that I include a list of areas covered directly on the net by those who QNI most often. A quick survey of the individual QNI roster shows frequent coverage of the following AREAS: AA4BN - Clewiston, WC4D - Holiday/ Clearwater, W4DL - Miami, AD4DO - Tallahassee/aplink, WA4EIC - Ft. Myers, WB2FGL(new) - Starke, KA4FZI - Ft. Myers/aplink, WX4H - Pensacola/aplink, AA4HT - Lakeland, W8IM - Leesburg, KN4JN - Merritt Island, W1KAM - Venice. Sarasota, W4KIX - Panama City, KD4OGV - Ft. Myers/Lehigh, K4SCL - St. Petersburg/Tampa, WA9VND and WV5Z Hollywood/Deerfield/Boca Raton/West Palm, W4VQQ Melbourne, AB4XK - Lakeland/ aplink, KC4ZHF - Ft. Lauderdale. These stations QNI often and QSP many cities in their area.

Reminder that in Rip's absence I will be taking the sar/pshr reports. He is reportedly having a great time and enjoying his new motorhome vacation immensely. We appreciate the assistance of all traffic handlers from all the nets in moving Rip's "Welcome to the ARRL messages and attempts to locate phone numbers for delivery. All that I have delivered have been

appreciated. A big THANK YOU to all those who brave the QRN to continue supporting QFN. Your ability and willingness to operate under rough conditions place you that one step above the others - true quality ops. Happy Mother's Day to our QFN gals and a healthy and satisfying month to all.73/88 Phil KA4FZI NM

SEFTN by Charles Brusca, WB4PAM

The Southeast Florida Traffic Net (SEFTN) met twice a day during April for a total of sixty sessions. Since April is a short month, we came close to the wire before logging our thousandth check-in -Pete, WB6SCX, visiting from Sacramento, California. This was the hundred and fifteenth month in a row with more than a thousand stations participating in the evening session. A certificate prepared by, Laura, WA9VND, signed by the Net Manager and that evening's Net Control Station is on its way to Pete. Thanks to all who participated. The response during the last days of the month was very encouraging. Activity has been picking up on the early session. Ron, NIRT, was our four hundredth check-in during March. Jim. KD4GR, the net manger was number four hundred for April. Donna, AE4QA, will present them with certificates. We hope to keep raising the number each month. Six stations made the Honor Roll for perfect attendance on the evening net: KD4GR. KD4HGU, KS4JK, KC4JNM, WB4PAM, and KC4ZHF. Tuesday "Traffic Tips" topics included discussions of how to deliver an National Traffic System (NTS) message (KD4GR); the effects of E-mail on the Amateur Service and the National Traffic System (AE4QA); pointers on how a "directed net" functions (AE4QA); and how, where and why to send the SAR and PSHR. Donna reminisced about receiving messages via NTS as a little girl, years before becoming a ham. Jim spoke about Hiram Percy Maxim trying to pass a message to a friend two towns away, and getting the idea for the NTS. "Traffic Tips" are presented each Tuesday at 6:30 local time. Everyone is invited to listen and to ask pertinent questions. We are looking for topics that might be of interest to new traffic handlers or old timers. The discussion of E-mail's effect on the Amateur Service hits close to home when we read that powerful commercial interests are interested in taking over or sharing frequencies that we think of as "ours." Wise and frequent use of our allocations will help us to retain them - it is hard to justify keeping an empty band at any frequency. Public service activities are particularly important insofar as they demonstrate the usefulness of amateur radio to

Continued on page 23

Knights of the Kilocycle - Don Browne (KO4YM), Editor

W1MRJ celebrates 51st anniversary

The Knights of the Kilocycle, amateur radio's oldest net, was organized on Christmas Day, 1929, and is now celebrating it's 67th year. The Knights meet every Sunday morning at 7:30 on 3910 Kilocycles. Since 1929 there have been 545 permanent memberships awarded to amateur operators. The Knights always welcomes new members. A membership certificate is earned after five consecutive weekly check-ins to the net. And here goes the Knightly News: W1MRJ, Tom celebrated his 51st anniversary last month while Fred, KA4SMD relayed that his granddaughter in Miramar received a 1st prize school award of which he was proud to hear, Henry, WB4GCK told the net about Weber College in Babson Park. He's on the Board of Trustees and affiliated with the college for 20 years. He attended the recent graduation ceremonies which was the largest ever. Bob, W4KOG of North Palm Beach, has been holding the fort well as Master Oscillator and Bob, K4VDX has graciously taken over the announcements of hamfests coming up. Bob, K4VDX

also noted that he's going to make his next anniversary in Hawaii and recently commented on the need for some rain up there in Marion county. Marian KC4MFT has done it again with her funny stories about Doug, N4SLS. Seems Doug came home one day with torn britches. He hadn't even noticed. Upon questioning by that sharp XYL Marian, she discovered he had been around a Doberman that day and the Doberman took a little nip at Doug's trousers, hence the tear. Marion also noted she was out working on her solar heating system. I think we will have to keep Marion's number handy...she can do house repairs too! Marion is also active on the Floradora net on Tuesday mornings at 9 a.m. on 3.933 and also the RV net at 2:30 in the afternoons on 14,263. Herb, AD4UA announced that his wife is out of the hospital and recuperating well now. Roger, W9ZSW is off again to Indiana where he'll spend a few months. Floyd, N4Fl of Lauderdale Lakes related some of the jobs he did with the old CAA in the '40s in Eugene, Oregon. He was in charge of repairing the teletype machines for air traffic stations. In those days, he said they often had to pack parts on horses to take supplies to remote locations.

Earl, W4AYD of Okeechobee City said he's taking a vacation from his job at the short wave broadcasting station in Okeechobee. He said he's been on the job for 16 years without a vacation and it's time to finally take one! For those who have computers and Internet access, please check out my web site at: http://members.aol.com/browne. I have music on most of the pages and even Morse code playing in the background on the ham pages. The amateur radio pages include Florida and Southwest Florida ham info, listings of area hams in three counties, online callbooks, and the latest Knights of the Kilocycle news as well as two QCWA chapter newsletter briefs. Also check out the ham radio web links I've mentioned in writing articles for Cyberham magazine and the online yellow pages and white phonebook pages. The Knights encourage new check-ins each Sunday morning to ham radio's oldest net. Please join us each Sunday at 7:30 AM, 3910 Kilocycles and let us know what's been happening in your town. We welcome all hams from anyone that can hear us. Invite your friends to listen and call in Sunday morning. See you all on Sunday morning.

All are welcome. The Chapter meeting is held the first Saturday of every month at Stacey's Buffet 1451 Missouri Avenue in the Midway Shopping Plaza, Clearwater. Lunch starts at 11:00 with the meeting at noon. See you there? The QCWA Journal is available on audio tapes for the sight impaired. This program is administered by Blanche Randles W4GXZ. If you know of a member who would like to receive this service, contact Blanche @ 813-1370-0867

Pelican Chapter #128 - by J. Frederick Strom, K9BSL

The April meeting of the Pelican Chapter #128 was held at the regular meeting place, Staceys Buffet, in the Tyrone Gardens Shopping Center, located at 10th Avenue and 58th Street North, in St. Petersburg. There were again 28 members and guest in attendance. There were no new guests in attendance at this meeting.

After a delicious meal the meeting was re-opened by President Morgan, WB4OMG, he asking K9BSL to introduce the program of the day. Our speakers were Mr. Frank Nafter & Mr. Dave Gavill, from the St Petersburg Speakers Bureau. Their topic was a self analysis of each person who cared to complete the form. It turned out to be an interesting program. Next month's program will be Ms. Caroline Krombeck from the Princess Martha Retirement Center. She talk on the history of St. Petersburg.

Don W4PCO reports that the Pelicans have \$1,296.96 in the Treasury with all bills paid.

A letter was read from Florida Skip, regarding our participation in the CCP program.

The meeting was closed at 14:00, and a prize drawing was made for a years subscription to Florida Skip and a free meal at Stacys, and the 50/50. After which the Pelicans again ravaged the dessert bar.

Hernando Chapter #148 - by Eunice Gordon, W1UKR

The March meeting was held on the 26th and was our"Bye Bye Snow Birdie" Picnic. Although the weatherman had doubts about the day it was a beautiful one. Twenty four of us attended and the offerings of food were delicious.

Ed Handly, W1OOR reports the death of Ed Tilton, W1HDQ on March 1st.

We are happy to report that Frank McCarthy is recovering nicely from a bypass operation and hopes to be able to drive again in the very near future.

A note from one of our members, Ed Newman, W2RPZ contained the following information which I thought would be of interest. "It just doesn't seem possible that 50 years has passed by, and even more interesting to me, is that I was a fledgling reporter for CQ Magazine and one of my first assignments was to cover the meeting held by the founding fathers of QCWA with an idea to form a national organization." He has just received his 50-year certificate.

Birthdays for April are Russ Beams W8AAL, Millie Knowlton KD4PGW, John Darbyson WB4MOX, Bob Gordon W1KUL and Marty Hambel K9EIE.

The one anniversary Chuck Feiss N9CF and Rose.

INTERNATIONAL RADIO SYSTEMS. INC.



FACTORY DIRECT DI HORIZED SALES &

• AMATEUR • COMMERCIAL • MARINE • SATELLITE • CELLULAR •









- HUSTLER
 SONY SECURITY
 TELEX-HYGAIN OCOM
 HENRY RADIO = ECMO STAR
 MIRAGE/KLM MAXCOM
 RF PRODUCTS CELWAVE
 OLAWA MULTIPLIER
 ASTRON SANTEC
 CENTURION BARKER &

- MAXON
- CES
- · MOTOROLA · SHAKESPHERE
- ARRL NYE VIKING

- SARIEG
 BARKER & WILLIAMSON
 NEUTEC
 SOUTHWESTERN BELL
 RF CONCEPTS
 VAN GORDAN ENG
 COLUMBIA WIRE
 CUSHCRAFT
 AND MORE...

TOTAL COMMUNICATION STORE



INTERNATIONAL RADIO SYSTEMS, INC.

HABLAMOS ESPANOL SU DISTRIBUIDOR PARA CENTRO, SUR AMERICA Y EL CARIBE

NW 58 ST PALMATTO 50 ST 72 36 ST

5001 N.W. 72ND AVE MIAMI, FLORIDA

Hours: Mon.-Fri. 9:30-5:30 Sat. 9:30-2:30

FAX: (305) 477-4449



TOWER COMPANY, INC.

SERVING AMATEUR RADIO FOR 20 YEARS

1639 Old Dixie Highway P.O. Box 2806 FS Vero Beach, FL 32961-2806

(561) 567-3423 • Fax (561) 567-3432

ELECTRONICS REPAIR

ESTIMATE

KLM COMMUNICATIONS

- * All Home Electronics
- * Antiques
- * Affordable Repair



1306 Lakeview Rd. Lake Wales, Fl. 33853 (813)676-2375

If it worked once..... It can work again!

KENWOOD - ICOM TWO-WAY RADIOS

HAROLD HEASTER

Ormond Beach, FL 904-673-4066 or 1-800-84-RADIO Call for Everyday Very Low Prices



ASTRO TOO

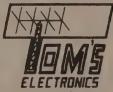
Electronic Components Computer Supplies

2854 Sarno Road Melbourne, FL 32935

(407) 253-3371

Owner - Tom Larrivee WA4DKG

Tech - Brian FCC - PG-7T-8408 KEADOL.



s - Mike Œ4DOK

164 West First Ave. Pierson, FL 32180

Tech 904-749-2042 FAX 904-749-3147

800-785-6266 Sales/Service

"OVER 20 YEARS OF SERVICE

"KNOWN FOR SERVICE"



EVELYN D. GAUZENS

W4WYR

Broker/Associate

FUTRELL COMPANY, INC. REALTORS

Office:

(305) 233-4444

Dig. Beeper:

880-0835

Eves.:

642-4139

INTERNATIONAL RADIO AND COMPUTER, INC. Your Number One Radio Repair Center for Florida and the USA!!



OUR 16TH YEAR

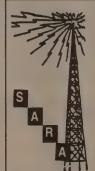
IRCI SUPPORTS YOU AND YOUR RADIO THROUGH:

- 1. Upgrade Kits for Icom, Kenwood & Yaesu radios.
- 2. Authorized Kenwood Warranty Service Center.
- 3. IRCI User Kenwood, Icom & Fox Tango Back Issue
- IRCI User Radio Supplements for Kenwood & Icom.
- 5. IRCI and Fox Tango 8 and 10 pole crystal filters.
- 6. Authorized Icom Dealer. 3804 South U.S. #1, Fort Pierce, FL 34982

BROKEN RADIOSIIII [407] 489-0956 FAX # [407] 464-6386

> Rent Me for Only \$75/yr.





DON'T MISS THIS ONE!

Come join the Southeast Amateur Radio Association Lauderhill, Florida 33351

For more information call:

Jerry, WB2BEC - 954-741-3955 Monty, N4LLZ - 954-748-1560



FRANK M. BUTLER, W4RH

DIRECTOR, SOUTHEASTERN DIVISION AMERICAN RADIO RELAY LEAGUE

323 ELLIOTT ROAD, SE FORT WALTON BEACH, FL 32548 PHONE: (904) 244-5425 MCI MAIL: 311-3659



IEMAL ELECTRONICS INTERNATIONAL, INC.

ELECTRONIC CABLE • CONNECTORS • CUSTOM ASSEMBLIES

BENJAMIN L. NEMSER

12240 NE 14th Ave. N. Miami, FL 33161 Tel. (305) 899-0900 Fax (305) 895-8178

FLORIDA SKIP SPECIALTIES

MAPS: 144, 220, 440 AND Packet - .25 ea. FCC: 610 & 610B Forms - FREE

FLA: Applications for Amateur Radio License Plate - FREE

Ham Shack Calendars - FREE

(Send request & SASE for Maps, Forms, Applications)

BOOKLETS: FL TFC Routing Guide \$3.00 + 2.00 P/H Dear Mabel Award: \$3.00 to cover P/H Andy Clark, W4IYT

P.O. Box 501 - Miami Springs, FL 33266

Repeater Maps

The FAMOUS Florida Skip 2-meter

Repeater Maps are available.

The larger, easier to read map is printed in two colors.

Send \$1.00 and SASE to: SKIP Magazine

> 672 Indian River Dr. Melbourne FL 32935

Antenna rotators & Control Boxes REPAIRED



nn plus parts/shipping or purchased

Conrad Kibler 10102 Cliff Circle - Tampa, FL 33612 Telephone - 813-933-2850

> U-LIFT By JB 6708 CR 651 Bushnell, FL 33513 352-793-4690



WB4MOX JOHN

WB4MOY BEV.

DON'T CLIMB YOUR TOWER, USE A U-LIFT LIKE WE DO. IT'S SO EASY.

C.G.A. ENTERPRISES

ALUMA TOWER

NEW

USED

ANTENNAS, ROTORS, COAX, CONNECTORS, RADIOS. POWER SUPPLYS, AMPLIFIERS, BATTERIES.

> FOLL FREE: 888-510-7373 FAX: 813-862-4767

PHONE: 813-862-3325

F-MAIL: cga:a/mail.citicom.com

G.M. ELECTRONICS SERVICE

HAM RADIO SERVICE AND REPAIR ALL MAKES

* Specialized Design Engineering/Construction * Also Marine Electronics

7130 North Main Street Jacksonville, Florida 32208 Guy Mallard, W6IYK (904) 764-0042

GO TRAVELING! AND THEN CALL ME FOR YOUR PLANS NATIZ

MONTE MIGDOL (N4LLZ) IS NOW WITH PRESTIGE TRAVEL CRUISES * AIR * HOTEL * TOURS * CARS SO CALL NOW! HOME: (954) 748-1560 **EVES**

Ink Refill Kits For All Ink Printers **Toner For Lasers And Copiers**





Affordable Printer Accessories

SCOTT & GAIL CALHOUN 12019 Uracus St. Orlando, FL 32837

(407) 855-3372 (407) 826-4154 Fax (407) 888-3324

Roger Radio

Communication Electronics

-Radio Repair and Restorations

-Alignments and Modifications

-All Makes: HF, VHF, Amps, Power Supplies .Installations

Preserving the charm of Amateur Radio

Kenwood Specialist

954-961-2363

Roger W. Warrick KK4KM

June 1997 · SKIP

SFL BBS Totals - Apr., 1997

Compiled by Bill Britton, KB4VOL

				TOT 11000
BBS	NTS		BUL	TOT MSGS
K0ZXF	-NO REP			40500 (DD0
K4VJI	237	1517	8826	10580 (BBS GATEWAY)
KB4GBS	0	365	6569	6934
KB4VOL	12	417	4400	4829
KB4WUA	0	247	7115	7362
KC4YEK	0 %	198	2134	2332
KD4GR	21	212	4380	4613
KD4MJV	0	292	4527	4819
KD6ZZ	-NO REPORT-			
KE2IX	7	533	3009	3549
KF4BPX	-NO REP	ORT-		
KF4OJ	0	113	3747	3860
KI4ZJ	0	115	3708	3823
KO4KS	7	1019	6778	7910
KP4EDL	0 - 1	249	4096	4345
KT4DI	0 .	222	1925	2147
N4AWX	5	667	1907	2579
N4HHP	31	681	4480	5192
N4JOA	6	61	1658	1725
N4XEO	2	535	4241	4778
W4DPH	48	4643	11987	16678 (GATEWAY)
W4MIN	6	515	6553	7074
W4MWP	0 .	167	7191	7358
W4OT	1	119	4400	4520
WA2LKI	6	1654	6559	8219
WB2WPA	0	146	2754	2900
WB4MOZ	3	404	4527	4934
WB4TEM	-NO REF	PORT-		
WD8IBY	-NO REF	PORT-		

NTS TOTAL: 392

If you have any questions, or need the software utilities to generate your BBS report, drop me a note with your name, address and size floppy needed. There's no charge. The utilities work with all types of bbs software, except TCP/IP (NOS.)

Remember, North Florida BBS's should send their reports to N4GMU @ N4GMU. South Florida BBS's to KB4VOL @ KB4VOL. Reports MUST be sent on the 1st covering BBS activity for the previous month. These reports are very important if we're to keep our frequencies. Please participate!

73... Bill, KB4VOL @ KB4VOL, ARRL Packet Manager South Florida. E-MAIL: kb4vol@gate.net

VISIT OUR NEW WEB SITE! LOTS OF HAM INFO AND THE MONTHLY LISTS!

http://pages.prodigy.com/kb4vol

Treasure Coast Amateur Radio Exams (TCARE)

Examination sessions will be held on the fourth Saturday of the months (except Dec). The time for registration is 9 am with testing at 9:30 am. The Location is the Port St. Lucie Police Dept., 121 S.W. Port St. Lucie Blvd., Port St. Lucie, FL 34983.

For Information contact Fred E. Neumann, W4FN, 199 S.W. Todd Ave., Port St. Lucie (561-340-5661) or George W. Daly, W3WU, 556 S. E. Crosspoint Dr., Pt St. Lucie (561-879-0239).

NFL BBS Totals - Apr., 1997

Compiled by Dave Sutherland, N4GMU

CALL	BUL	PERS	NTS	TOT
AA4RU	6770	316	6	7092
K4GBB	2734 .	231	19	2984
K4OZS	N/R			
KB4FEA	N/R			
KE4INI	3973	281	11	4266
N4GMU	3051	509	7	3567
N4JTS	5643	365	15	6023
N8NEU	DISK CR.	ASH N/R		
WB5THT	2686	355	0	3041
N0ZO	5960	4034	13	10007
W4WEB	6250	131	0	6381
WB4NOD	2212 -	211	18	2441
WN4IIV	3609	352	4	3965
WX4J	192	418	192	648
Total NTS	traffic for	NFL: 285	5	
SEND REPORTS:				
N4GMU @ N4GMU.#NFL.FL.USA.NA				
n4gmu@totcon.com				

Top Twenty Traffickers - Apr., 1997

Compiled by Rip, AA4HT

	Station	Total		Station	Total
	Station		5,	Station	Totai
1	WX4H	2458	11	NR2F	463
2	W4TJM	1678	12	K4SCL	449
3	W3CUL	1314	13	KC4ZHF	331
4	W3VR	1084	14	KB4WBY	262
5	WA9VND	981	15	AA4HT	238
6	KA4FZI	704	16	W4DL	232
7	KE4DNO	667	17	K4RBR	210
8	W7AMM	614	18	. KD40GV	174
9	KA3YZM	545	19	WA4PUP	169
10	AB4XK	510	20	WB4PAM	159

Silent Keys

We regret to report the passing of the following Amateur Radio Operators. Please notify SKIP of silent keys in your area.

KC4RMK - William F. Saunders, Key West

W1HDQ - Edward M. Tilton, Spring Hill

W1WSK - Donald R. Eaton, Holiday

AA4ES - Dante J. Algeri, Fort Lauderdale

AE4LL - Floyd H. Jones, Trenton

W4LRB - Charles W. McDormand, Cape Coral

WA4QJY - Richard D. Roland, Winter Haven

N4WA - E. W. Terrie, Tallahassee

KC4WFO - Cecil C. Robinson, Sebring

KE6OTA - Robert Abrahams, Plantation

W0RDC - Keith E. Harpold, Sarasota

ARRL NATIONAL CONVENTION SPONSORED BY

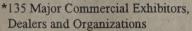
GREATER JACKSONVILLE AMATEUR RADIO



AND COMPUTER SHOW AUGUST 2 & 3, 1997

Prime Osborn Convention Center Jacksonville, Florida

FEATURING



- *400 Swap Tables
- ** Amateur Exams & Upgrades
- *DX Award Checking
- *Talk-in on 146.76
- *Banquet 7pm, cash bar 6-7pm, OMNI Hotel, tickets in advance only.
- *Woulf Hong held Saturday night
- *Computer Hardware, Software and Accessories
- *VHF/UHF Award Checking
- *Free Parking
- *Prizes, Prizes, Prizes

Swap Tables available at \$25 each and Registration required with swap table. Contact: Karl Hassler, 2767 Scott

Circle, Jacksonville, FL 32223

Phone: 904-268-2302

Registration \$6 In Advance, until June 30th. \$8 at door.

Send SASE and check made payable to: Greater Jacksonville Hamfest Association, P. O. Box 27033, Jacksonville, FL 32205

Headquarters Hotel: OMNI Hotel Jacksonville, 245 Water St., Jacksonville, FL 32202 Phone: 904-355-6664 or 800-843-6664. Must mention Hamfest to get the special \$69 rate.

For Commercial Booths contact Vern Ferris, 356 Aries Dr., Orange Park, FL 32073. Phone: 904-272-7250

For more information write to: Greater Jacksonville Hamfest Association, P. O. Box 27033, Jacksonville, FL 32205 or visit our web site http://users.southeast.net/~irmoore/hamfest.html

ADVANCED TICKET SALES

Fill out below information and mail with check and self-addressed, stamped envelope to: Greater Jacksonville Hamfest Association, P. O. Box 27033, Jacksonville, FL 32205.

Name:	Address:	
City:	State:Zip Code:	Phone: ()
Advanced Registration: Number:	@ \$6.00. Total amount:	
Banquet Reservations: Number:	@ \$30.00. Total Amount:	
*Swap Tables: Number:(@\$25.00 Total Amount:	
*Registration required when pur	chasing Swap Tables.	

June 1997 • SKIP 21

Upcoming Shows in Florida - XXX., 1997

ITT	TAMFESTS	
	Compiled by Bill Britton, KB4VOL	Oct 24/25 Miami Computer/Hamfest Show Dade County Expo Center S.W. 112th Ave & Coral Way INFO: Evelyn, W4WYR (305) 642-4139 (NOTE! This is NOT the Miami Hamboree)
DATE	LOCATION NOTES	Nov 1 Sorrento Lake ARA (Eustis) East Lake C of C Bldg SR 437 (Plymouth-Sorrento Rd) Talk-in on 147.255
June 14	Ft. McCoy At Ft. McCoy Community Ctr. Off S.R. 316 (Marion County) Talk-in on 146.940	INFO: Chuck, KE4EXM (352) 669-2075 Nov 8 Port St Lucie St Andrew's Lutheran Church Prima Vista Blvd. Talk-in on 146.955
August 2/3	INFO: Tom, KS4ZI (352) 546-3967 Jacksonville Prime Osborne Convention Center South Lee & West Bay St. Talk-in on 146.76	INFO: Frank, N4FBX (561) 336-3069 Nov 8 Titusville Fox Lake Park Harrison St west to the park Talk-in on 146.910/146.970
Sept 13/14	625 Hibiscus Blvd. Talk-in on 146.850	INFO: Clyde, K4EOS (407) 267-9375 Nov 22/23 Tampa Florida Expo Park I-4 & US 301 Talk-in on 146.940
Sept 21	INFO: Allen, N4PTM (407) 773-9658 New Port Richey Pasco County Hamfest (Sunday only) Talk-in on 145.35 & 147.15 INFO: Ron, N9EE (813) 376-6575	INFO: Jean Endicot (813) 525-5178 Dec 6 Okeechobee Agriculture Center Bldg on US 441 1.5 mi north of SR 70 Talk-in on 147.195
Sept 27	Sunrise FREE! Cy Harris Flea Motorola East Parking Lot 1 bl E of Univ Dr on Sunrise Blvd Talk-in on 146.79 INFO: Robin, N4HHP (954) 583-3625	INFO: AI, AD4RZ (941) 467-0516 Dec 6 Ocala Booster Stadium N 36th Ave 1 mile N of SR 40 Talk-in on 146.970 INFO: Mario, N4TSV (352) 245-9514
Oct 4/5	Maitland Bahia Shrine Temple 2300 Pembrook Dr. Talk-in on 147.390 INFO: Cecil, K4KEN (407) 281-9169	Dec 13 Lake City FL Sports Hall of Fame I-75 exit 82 to US 90 west Talk-in on 145.490 INFO: Colen, WA5RKR (904) 755-7969
Oct 11	Tampa Egypt Temple ARA 4050 Dania Shores Drive Talk-in on 146.940 INFO: Jay, K9BSL (813) 822-9107	HELP AVOID CONFLICTS - GET YOUR DATES IN EARLY!
Oct. 18	Starke Bradford County Fairgrounds U.S. 301 just east of SR 100 Talk-in on 145.150 INFO: Dan, K4RVD (904) 475-2695	PLEASE SENT CORRECTIONS, ADDITIONS AND WHO TO CALL FOR INFO! Packet Address: KB4VOL @ KB4VOL Army MARS Call: AAT4RV Mail: Bill Britton, KB4VOL 8703 S.E. Jardin St. Hobe Sound,
Oct 18/19		FL 33455 E-Mail: kb4vol@gate.net
	Talk-in on 147.165 INFO: Ken, KD4CTG (561) 640-9447	VISIT OUR FLORIDA HAM WEB SITE! LOTS OF LINKS & THE MONTHLY LISTS! http://pages.prodigy.com/kb4vol

Continued from page 15

the members of the voting public, and establish good relations with governmental agencies. Hams would do well to make use of the NTS to pass statistical data and station reports, and to make their neighbors aware of our Radiogram service. E-mail has its purposes, but it can't compare to hearing the voice of a friendly amateur wishing you a "happy birthday from Aunt Martha and Uncle Harry in Milwaukee." There was some discussion about having a CW portion of the net to enable members to acquire and improve their Morse code

skills in a friendly environment. An FM transmitter driven by an audio oscillator would allow everyone to copy a (modulated) CW signal on their FM rigs, and allow a quick fall-back to voice if the frustration level got too high. No formal plans have been announced, but we will keep you posted. (Let's see now, that used to be called "F2" before they "improved" the emissions designators....) SEFTN meets daily at 1130 and 1800 local time on 146.19/79 Mhz, the Motorola Amateur Radio Club repeater. The alternate frequency is 146.31/91, the

Broward Amateur Radio Club repeater. Both sessions send representatives to the Section level NTS nets. New members are always welcome, so please join us. No experience in traffic handling is necessary, and all properly licensed Hams are welcome.

April SEFTN Statistics (Total/Average)

 Session
 Stations
 Messages
 Minutes

 EARLY
 413/13.8
 85/2.8
 467/15.6

 LATE
 1018/33.9
 268/8.9
 1710/57.0

 TOTALS
 1431/23.9
 353/5.9
 2177/36.3

73, Charles, WB4PAM



FOR SALE - Kenwood TS-520/VFO 520S/Speaker SP500/Mike; Kenwood TS530SP/Speaker SP230/Mike MC50; Yaesu FT101/Mike; Yaesu FT221 (2 meter all mode)/Mike and more. For details call Larry Wolf, Haines City, FL (941) 421-6383 or email-kj4uy@digital.net

FOR SALE - 58 ft. RHON-25 foldover tower. Cost over \$700.00. Sell for \$300.00 OBO. C. Shetler, KJ4AM. 5702 SW 1st St. Plantation, FL 33317. Ph. (954) 581-8811

WANTED - 40 METER BEAM. John Shaner (N4PG). P.O. Box 13494, Tallahassee, FL 32317. Ph: 904-877-4939

WANTED - (1) Copy of "Reflections Transmissions Lines and Antennas" by M. Walter Maxwell, W2DU. Prefer new condition copy. (2) Hygain 40 meter beam (will pick up in Florida). Contact Rich Shaver (W0FR), 12075 Payne Rd., Sebring, FL 33872. Ph: 941-699-0314 with condition and price.



Contacting SKIP

Articles, advertising copy, subscriptions, classified ads, correspondence or press releases can be forwarded as follows:



• Mail: SKIP Magazine 672 Indian River Drive Melbourne, FL 32935



• E-mail: gwentz@digital.net • Voice Phone:



800-421-3279 242-5993 (Local)

·FAX:



800-421-3279 (Auto detects fax or you can enter ## to get fax machine)

PLEASE NOTIFY SKIP OF ADDRESS CHANGES OR "TEMPORARILY AWAYS"!! A simple phone call will do it and it costs you nothing.

Deadline for material is 10th of month *PREVIOUS* to month of publication.

SUBSCRIPTION FORM

FLORIDA SKIP 672 Indian River Dr. Melbourne, FL 32935	Name
□ New □ Renewal □ Change Information	Address
☐ One Year \$12.00* ☐ Two Years \$23.00* ☐ Three Years \$34.00* *Foreign subscriptions add \$12.00/year.	State Zipcode

ELI'S AMATEUR RADIO

2513 SOUTHWEST 9th AVENUE FT. LAUDERDALE, FL

DISCOUNT PRICES

7 DAYS

195

Exit 27

-1 mile — 1 mile —

59th Ave. U.S.1 A WEEK

State Road 84

"THE LATEST IN NAME BRAND HAM EQUIPMENT"

YAESU

VISIT OUR USED GEAR DEPT **EQUIPMENT SOLD ON CONSIGNMENT**

LARGEST SELECTION OF BOOKS AND PERIODICALS IN SOUTH FLORIDA!

AMERICAN EXPRESS. MASTERCARD AND VISA

BROWARD (954)525-0103

ICOM

1-800-780-0103

Nationwide

"SE HABLA ESPANOL"

DADE (305)944-3383



S'FATHER'S DAY

SKIP

Unrestricted hamming on June 15th

PLEASE NOTIFY The FLORIDA SKIP IF YOU ARE CHANGING YOUR **ADDRESS**

Your undelivered magazines are very costly



672 Indian River Dr. Melbourne, FL 32935

BULK RATE U.S. POSTAGE PAID **ADDRESS** N'MAIL

ADDRESS CORRECT